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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/828,239   | 04/09/2001  | Kent Gregg           | 447694-4            | 5621             |
| 20686  | 7590        | 05/04/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP<br>INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT<br>370 SEVENTEENTH STREET<br>SUITE 4700<br>DENVER, CO 80202-5647 |             |                      | SEMBER, THOMAS M    |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 2875                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                               |                             |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.<br>09/828,239 | Applicant(s)<br>GREGG, KENT |  |
|                              | Examiner<br>Thomas M Sember   | Art Unit<br>2875            |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 7, 15-17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shea, Sr. Shea, Sr. discloses at least one light source 24; and at least one light conductive path (28-32) attached to and permanently formed and non-affixed on an exterior surface 12 of the helmet (SEE COLUMN 3, LINES 20-35, SPECIFICALLY LINES 33-34 STATES "THE FLEXIBLE FIBER OPTIC TRANSMITTERS COULD BE MOLDED DIRECTLY INTO THE SHELL), and having a first end optically coupled to the light source and a second end for emitting light.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 4 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shea, Sr. in view of Koenen Myers et al. Shea Sr. discloses the claimed invention except for the teaching that the second end of the fiber optic conductor is polished to

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create a lens for emitting light. Koenen Myers et al teaches a second end of the fiber optic conductor is polished to create a lens for emitting light. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the fiber optic conductors of Shea, Sr. to include polished ends in order to efficiently transmit light as taught by Koenen Myers et al

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-6 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shea, Sr. in view of Chien. Shea Sr. discloses the claimed invention except for the plurality of LEDs or colored LEDs. Chien '271 teaches a plurality of LEDs or colored LEDs (see column 8, lines 25-27) used to illuminate a helmet. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a plurality of LEDs or colored LEDs for the light source of Shea, Sr. in order to provide colored illumination to each fiber optic and because LEDs are more efficient and last longer than other conventional low voltage light sources.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 8-14 and 22-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shea, Sr. in view of Glatt. Shea Sr. discloses the claimed invention except for the logic circuitry. Glatt teaches providing logic circuitry to control the illumination of a helmet. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the circuitry of Shea, Sr. to include the logic circuitry of Glatt in order to efficiently and effectively control the illumination of the helmet of Shea, Sr..

***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

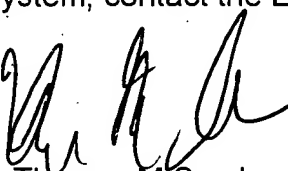
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M Sember whose telephone number is 571-

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272-2381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 A.M- 5.30 p.m. first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 703-305-4939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas M Sember  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2875